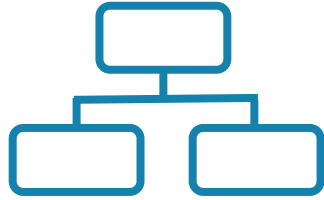




# INTERNATIONAL UPDATE

Grant Vergottini  
Founder & CEO, Xcential  
April 29, 2015



**Legal Document Markup Language  
(LegalDocML)**

Advancing worldwide best practices for  
the use of XML in legal documents

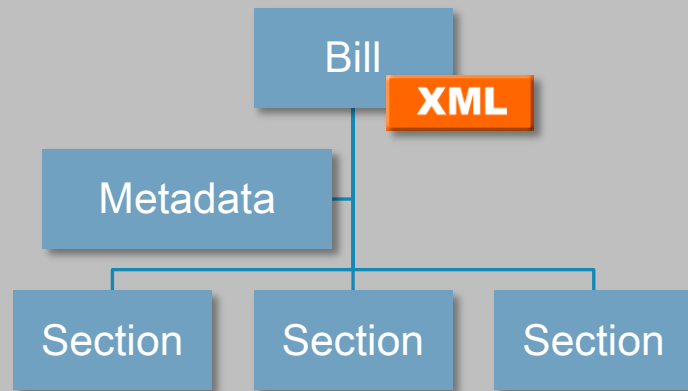


**Legal Citation Markup  
(LegalCiteM)**

Developing an open standard for  
machine-readable tagging of legal  
citations

<http://oasis-open.org>

# LegalDocML



Defining an XML model for legislative documents

Technology platform agnostic  
Jurisdiction independent  
Legal tradition independent  
Permanent



# Akoma Ntoso 3.0



LegalDocML is the next version of Akoma Ntoso Legislative XML

Originally developed for the  
United Nations Department of Economic & Social Affairs (UNDESA)

Defined at the University of Bologna, Italy

It's pronounced "**A-coma In-tozo**"

Means "**linked hearts**" in the Akon language of West Africa

AkomaNtoso.org

# Announcement: Akoma Ntoso 3.0 is now in Public Review



Public review  
starts **today!!!**



Last step before  
approval as a  
standard



Please check it out  
& provide your  
comments

<http://oasis-open.org/???>

# How to consider Akoma Ntoso

## **Akoma Ntoso is complex and powerful**

- Designed to support a wide-ranging set of legal traditions
- Designed to meet a wide-ranging set of use cases
- Anticipates very sophisticated tools in the future

# How to consider Akoma Ntoso

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- Don't feel you have to use it all
- Use generic capabilities to fill in the gaps

# How to consider Akoma Ntoso

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## Start simple & evolve to something more complex

- Compliance levels provide a path for adoption .....
- Start with a simple export to start and go from there

- 1 Use the defined structure
- 2 + Use the naming conventions
- 3 + Use basic metadata
- 4 + Use advanced metadata
- 5 + Enrich semantic information (tagging)



# Upcoming Events



## LEX Summer School 2015 (Europe)

- University of Bologna – Ravenna, Italy.
- Early September, 2015
- <http://summerschoollex.cirsfid.unibo.it/>
- + Tool Developer's Workshop



## LEX Summer School (US Edition)

- George Mason University – Washington D.C.
- Last week of July, 2015



## First International Akoma Ntoso Conference

- George Mason University – Washington D.C.
- August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015
- Call for papers

# Why is Akoma Ntoso important?



## **Enhances Transparency**

- Common format
- Allows data to be shared
- Allows data to be inter-connected



## **Improves Efficiency**

- Shares costs, knowledge, technology
- Eliminates converters
- Increases responsiveness



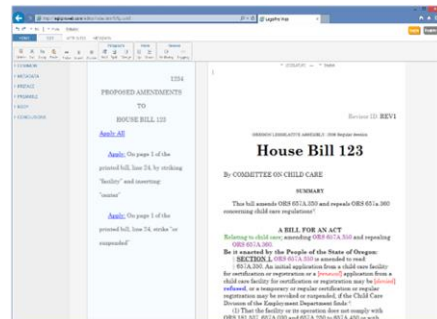
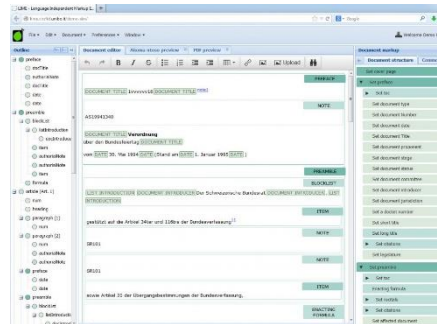
## **Creates an Industry**

- Attracts investment
- Create a market for tools
- Advance the state-of-the-art

# What's Next for Akoma Ntoso

Jurisdictions around the world are looking at Akoma Ntoso

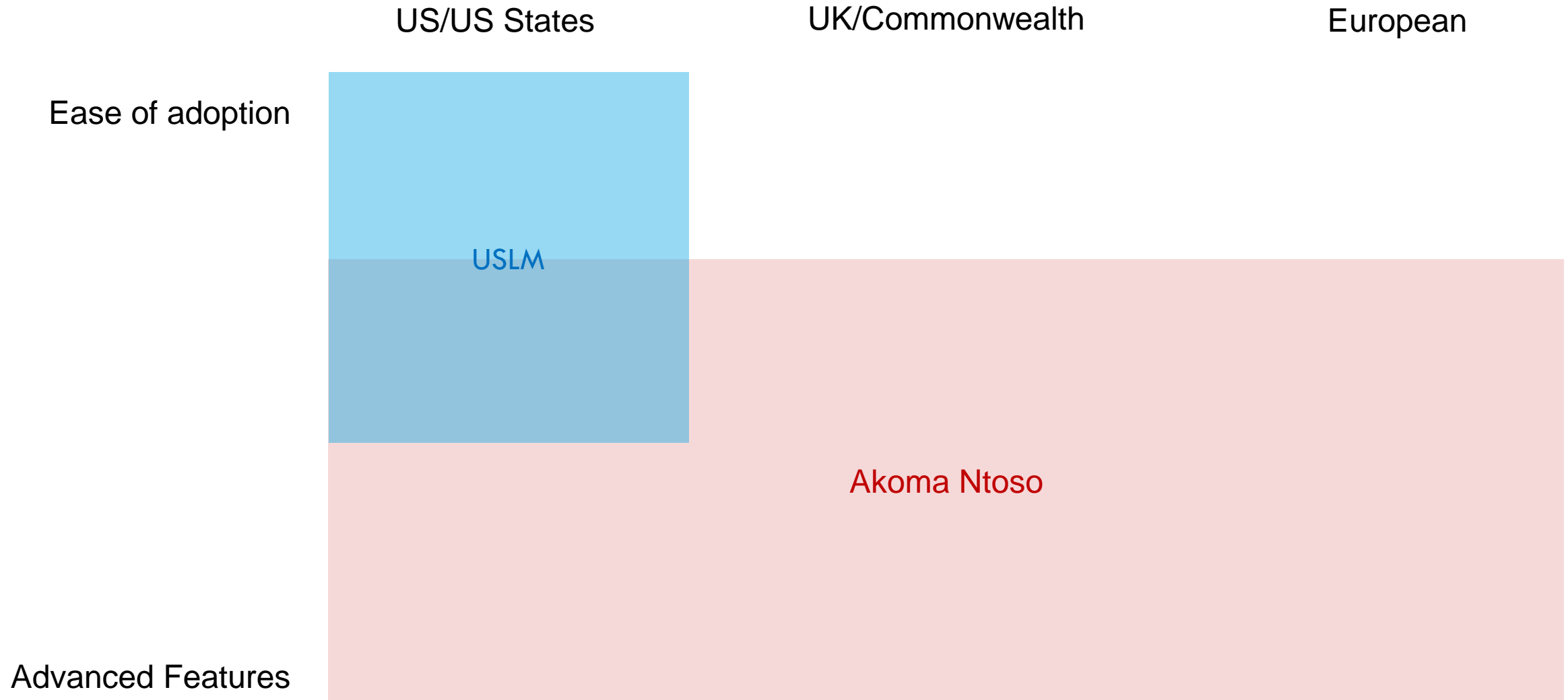
- Announcements to come!



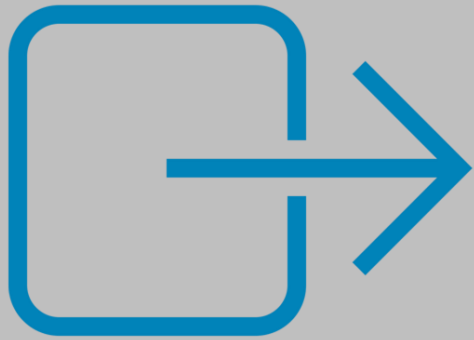
New generation of tools are being developed

- Announcements to come!
- University of Bologna – LIME Editor
- Xcential – LegisPro FastTrack

# Comparing Akoma Ntoso to USLM



# LegalCiteM



Defining a machine readable model for legal citations

Technology platform agnostic  
Jurisdiction independent  
Legal tradition independent  
Permanent

# What's the problem?

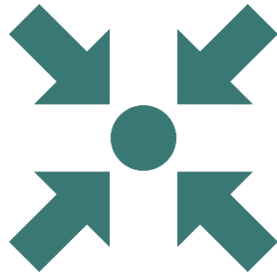
*Are these references,  
identifiers, or both?*

Organization/Scheme	Link / identifier
Akoma Ntoso (AKN)	/akn/ke/act/2010-08-27/1
USLM	/uslm/us/pl/111/148
GPO	/link?collection=cfr&titlenum=3&partnum=100&sectionnum=1&year=2011
Cornell LII	/uscode/text/9/304
Congress.gov	/bill/114th-congress/house-bill/2027
California LegInfo	/pub/15-16/bill/asm/ab_0001-0050/ab_11_bill_20150311_amended_asm_v98
UK Crown Markup (CLML)	/ukpga/2003/21/section/390
European Legislative Id (ELI)	/eli/dir/1975/437
Hong Kong (HKLM)	/hkmlm/hk/2011/ln164!zh-Hant-HK/s2
Lex (URN)	urn:lex:eu:council:directive:2010-03-09;2010-19-UE

# Progress

## Five technical subcommittees formed

- Court documents / Court & tribunal rules
- Executive branch / regulations
- Legislation / Constitutions / Treaties
- Secondary material
- Technical



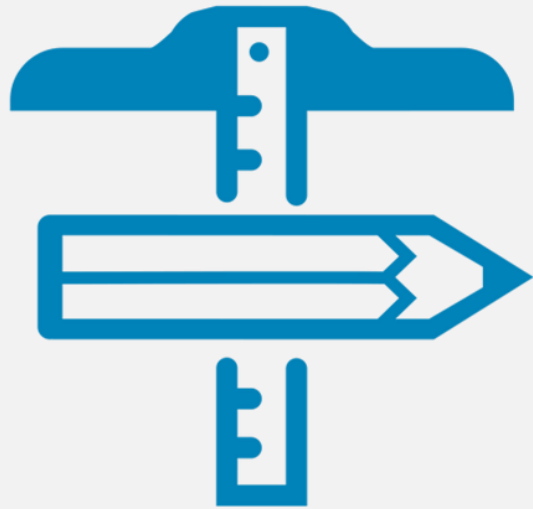
Use cases collected  
from around the world



Existing schemes analyzed

- Akoma Ntoso, USLM, ELI, etc.

# Next Steps



## Design

Define requirements

Define a unified model

Get consensus



# Summary

## **Legal Document Markup Language**

- An XML model for legislation
- Public review starts now!!!
- Please provide your feedback
- Please sign-up for one of our upcoming events!

## **Legal Citation Markup**

- An open standard for machine-readable tagging of legal citations
- Studying use cases
- Evaluating existing schemes
- Still more to come